

SITUATION REPORT NO. 23
INCIDENT NO. 96-37
DATE: August 7, 1996 TIME: 4 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring flood. (Separate situation reports are being issued for Devils Lake, Incident #96-01.)
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGE: Rising closed basin lakes in the state, particularly in Dickey, Logan, Kidder, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh and Stutsman Counties, are causing flood damage. These lakes are rising beyond historical levels and are inundating farm land and farmsteads.

Situation Report Number 1, Incident 96-99, cited flood damages in Towner County. Research indicates that flooding problems and ensuing road damages which began on June 19, 1996 were a result of: above average rainfall that occurred during the fall of 1995; above average snowfall in Cavalier County to the east and Rolette County to the west; heavy early spring rains; low gradient topography; and severe summer storms beginning the week of June 16.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: North Dakota Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials will be closing the Disaster Field Office on Friday, August 9. After this date, questions on projects are to be directed to North Dakota Emergency Management.

On August 6, North Dakota Emergency Management requested FEMA support in conducting a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) in Towner County. The PDA is planned for the week of August 12, 1996.

As of August 6 there have been 1,362 Damage Survey Report (DSR) inspections (damage site work plans) shipped to the Regional Processing Center in Denver, Colo.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) made available federal disaster loans for homeowners, renters,

and businesses in Grand Forks, Pembina and Walsh County for damages caused by flooding which occurred on May 17 and 18 only. These four counties are eligible because they are contiguous to Marshall County, Minnesota, which was declared eligible for federal disaster loans by the SBA.

The Federal/State Hazard Mitigation Team met August 6 to establish project priorities for FEMA-1118-DR-ND. The team also discussed available funding, potential problem areas, funding for engineering studies, and the application process.

County Water Boards and the N.D. State Water Commission are analyzing the closed basin lake flooding problems to determine possible solutions. Each additional rainfall increases problems.

The U.S. Geological Survey is gauging stream flows in Towner County this week. The State Water Commission is closely monitoring water problems in Towner County.

More than two inches of rain fell in the James River Basin, August 3, contributing to concerns by local and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer officials about water storage in the Jamestown Dam Reservoir for the spring 1997 runoff.

The N.D. Department of Transportation (N.D. DOT) director met with public officials and citizens August 6 in reference to flooding along N.D. Highway 66 between Drayton and the Red River bridge.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: No change from previous reports.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez, State Director